

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MADRID

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (LINES 1 AND 2 PARA 1 OMITTED)

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: SNAR, SP

SUBJECT: SPANISH REQUEST RE NARCOTICS DETECTOR DOGS

REF.: A) MADRID 7011 B) STATE 250020

1. QUESTION OF POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO GOS IN TRAINING OF NARCOTICS DETECTOR DOGS HAS BEEN DISCUSSED WITH CUSTOMS. AT PRESENT CUSTOMS DOG TRAINING PROGRAM MUST CONTINUE TO CONCENTRATE ON MEETING DIRECT OPERATIONAL NEEDS OF CUSTOMS ITSELF. THUS NO FOREIGN HANDLERS CAN BE TRAINED DIRECTLY.

2. HOWEVER, CUSTOMS HAS EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS TO DEVELOP GENERAL ORIENTATION PROGRAM WHICH WOULD PROVIDE EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR FOREIGN DOG HANDLERS TO LEARN US APPROACH AND METHODS IN TRAINING
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DETECTOR DOGS AND HANDLERS. THIS ORIENTATION PROGRAM

WOULD BE OPEN TO 2-4 SPANISH OFFICIALS ALREADY TRAINED
DOG HANDLERS WHO COULD THEN RETURN TO SPAIN AND PROVIDE
INITIAL CADRE FOR SPANISH TRAINING PROGRAM.

3. PROGRAM WOULD CONSIST OF PERIOD AT US CUSTOMS
TRAINING CENTER AT FRONT ROYAL, VIRGINIA PLUS
OBSERVATION OF DOGS IN REGULAR CUSTOMS OPERATIONS.
THIS PROPOSAL WAS ORIGINALLY IN RESPONSE TO ITALIAN
INTEREST BUT COULD BE EXPANDED TO INCLUDE SPANISH

IF MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE DATES IN EARLY 1975 COULD BE
WORKED OUT.

4. FOLLOWING ORIENTATION PROGRAM, CUSTOMS WOULD BE
WILLING TO CONSIDER SENDING QUALIFIED PERSON TO SPAIN
TO ASSIST IN DEVELOPING SPANISH TRAINING COURSE, SUBJECT
TO PERSONNEL AND FUNDING LIMITATIONS.

5. IN RESPONDING TO SPANISH REQUEST ALONG LINES PARAS
1-4, YOU MAY ALSO INDICATE THAT US CUSTOM OFFICIALS
SCHEDULED TO GIVE PRESENTATION ON DOGS AT BRUSSELS SEMINAR
DESCRIBED REF B ARE PREPARED TO VISIT MADRID ENROUTE TO
BRUSSELS. THIS VISIT COULD PROVIDE USEFUL OPPORTUNITY
FOR US AND SPANISH OFFICIALS TO EXPLORE SPANISH INTERESTS
AND POSSIBLE US ASSISTANCE. TIME FRAME OF VISIT WOULD
BE DECEMBER 2-4 AND INDICATION OF SPANISH INTEREST NEEDED
ASAP IN ORDER TO DEVELOP FINAL ITINERARY.

6. IN DISCUSSION OF SPANISH PARTICIPATION IN CUSTOMS
ORIENTATION PROGRAM, YOU SHOULD EXPLAIN THAT GOS SHOULD
BE PREPARED TO BEAR AT LEAST INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL COSTS
FOR PARTICIPANTS. FYI US HAS CUSTOMARILY COVERED PER DIEM
AND IN-COUNTRY TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR FOREIGN PARTICIPANTS
IN NARCOTICS CONTROL TRAINING BUT NO DECISION YET TAKEN
ON FUNDING FOR DETECTOR DOG PROGRAM.

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